

Message Text

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67

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AF-06

IO-10 /075 W

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R 261605Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4939

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USMISSION USBERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL MUNICH

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 13806

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GW, PO, UR

SUBJ: PRAVDA ATTACK ON STRAUSS THREATENS KOHL VISIT;
SOVIETS DEFENSIVE ON PORTUGAL

1. AT QUADRIPARTITE MEETING SEPTEMBER 26, FRG AMBASSADOR SAHM REPORTED THAT PRAVDA ATTACK ON STRAUSS HAD BROKEN SMOOTH PACE OF KOHL VISIT AND ENDANGERED ITS OUTCOME. SAHM SAID SOVIETS HAD BEEN VERY KIND, AND KOHL HAD BEEN RECEIVED TWO HOURS EACH BY RSFSR PREMIER AND CANDIDATE POLITBURO MEMBER SOLOMENTSEV (HIS FORMAL HOST) AND FIRST DEPUTY FONMIN KUZNETSOV. FOLLOWING APPEARANCE OF PRAVDA PIECE, HOWEVER, KOHL FELT OBLIGED TO CANCEL SEPTEMBER 26 SCHEDULE AND ASK FOR IMMEDIATE APPOINTMENT WITH SOLOMENTSEV (PRESUMABLY TO COMPLAIN). IF APPOINTMENT NOT GRANTED, SAID SAHM, KOHL MAY CANCEL REMAINDER OF VISIT.

2. AS A FOOTNOTE ON SOVIET ATTITUDES TOWARD PORTUGAL, WE NOTE SAHM REPORT THAT ONLY HEAT DURING VISIT
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PRIOR TO ATTACK ON STRAUSS WAS GENERATED BY KOHL'S

REMARK TO KUZNETSOV THAT DKP SEEMED TO HAVE AS MUCH
MONEY TO SPEND AS CDU: KUZNETSOV REACTED VIOLENTLY
AND RESPONDED WITH PASSIONATE TIRADE THAT WESTERN
PRESS REPORTS OF SOVIET FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR WEST EUROPEAN
COMMUNIST PARTIES WERE CANARDS, AND WERE SPECIFICALLY
NOT TRUE WITH REGARD TO WEST GERMANY AND PORTUGAL.MATLOCK

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NNN

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